Run 1900
5-24-93

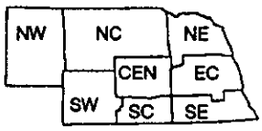
NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

NEBRASKA AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

For Week Ending May 23, 1993

Issue: 12-93 | Phone: (402) 437-5541 | P.O. Box 81069
Released: 5/24/93 - 3:00 p.m. | Location: 273 Federal Bldg. | Lincoln, NE 68501

National Agricultural Statistics Service
U.S. Department of Agriculture
and U.S. Department of Commerce
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admn.
National Weather Service



Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
Cooperative Extension Service
Institute of Agriculture
and Natural Resources–UN-L

WEATHER

The week was wet and mild. Temperatures varied from near normals in the west to three to seven degrees below normals in the east. Precipitation amounts varied from a tenth of an inch in the west up to almost two inches in the east.

GENERAL

Fieldwork activities were producers' main activities across the State this past week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. Locally, wet field conditions hindered and even halted any fieldwork in some cases. Continued warmer, sunny days are needed for proper wheat and grass growth as well as for field crop planting, emergence, and growth. As a contrast, inadequate moisture has prompted producers to "irrigate up" planted crops in areas of the Panhandle. Farm-stored grain continued to be monitored. In some cases, grain has gone farther out of condition due to greater time spent in the field with less time available to work with the stored grain.

CROPS

Winter wheat condition was rated at 17% fair, 75% good, and 8% excellent. Heading had begun in most parts of the State with 3% of the crop headed thus far. This is about two weeks behind normal. Last year, 74% was headed with the five-year average at 44%. Growth and development remain behind normal due to cool, wet conditions.

CROPS (Cont.)

Corn planting made excellent progress last week but remained about ten days behind normal. As of Sunday, 76% had been planted, compared with 97% last year and 94% for the five-year average. Some producers have used their center pivots to apply chemicals and to break the soil crust for emergence. Producers who are still having planting delays express concerns over using shorter season hybrids or switching to another crop. Harvest of last fall's unharvested corn continued where surface conditions permitted.

Soybean and sorghum planting made good progress last week but remained nearly two weeks behind normal. Soybean planting, at 13%, compared to 61% last year and 50% for the average. Sorghum planting, at 8%, compared with 56% last year and 42% average.

Alfalfa condition was rated at 9% fair, 62% good, and 29% excellent. Alfalfa weevils continue to pose a problem in several east central and southeast fields. First cuttings have begun in a few locations. Wild hay condition was rated at 7% fair, 87% good, and 6% excellent.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 99% of normal and compares with 80% of normal last year at this time. Cattle continue to be moved to pastures. Pastures, even though slow due to cool weather, are providing good grazing and an improvement in calf health.

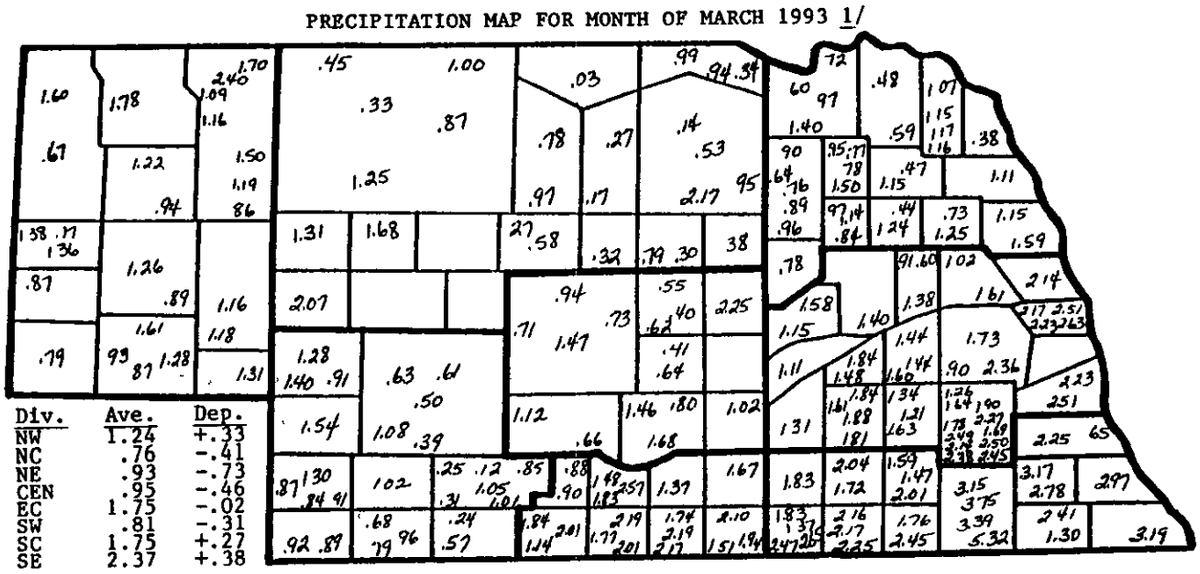
FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF MAY 23, 1993	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVERAGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% wheat headed	0	4	3	6	6	4	6	2	3	0	74	44
% corn planted	93	85	76	70	76	87	88	55	76	36	97	94
% corn emerged	48	27	21	29	37	26	45	28	31	8	79	68
% sorghum planted	0	13	4	5	10	8	6	7	8	1	56	42
% soybeans planted	0	20	10	6	17	4	11	13	13	1	61	50
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF MAY 21, 1993												
Days suitable	6.9	6 1	6.3	5 1	5.2	6.0	3.2	3.4	5.3	2.4	4.2	
Topsoil moisture - Short	53	8	0	0	0	17	0	0	10	3	45	
(Percent) - Adequate	47	92	80	78	63	66	73	13	62	42	47	
- Surplus	0	0	20	22	37	17	27	87	28	55	8	
Subsoil moisture - Short	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	33	
(Percent) - Adequate	80	92	80	100	74	83	64	47	76	62	66	
- Surplus	0	8	20	0	26	17	36	53	21	36	1	

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS (ISSN 0745-0117) is published weekly April-November and monthly December-March by the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), 100 Centennial Mall North, Room 273 Federal Building, Lincoln, NE 68508. Subscription is free to survey respondents upon request to NASS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501, or by calling (402) 437-5541 and available for $15.00 per year to non-reporters. POSTMASTER. Send address changes to NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS, P.O. Box 81069, Lincoln, NE 68501.

NEBRASKA WEATHER & CROPS
P.O. Box 81069
Lincoln, NE 68501

Second Class Postage
Paid at
Lincoln, Nebraska

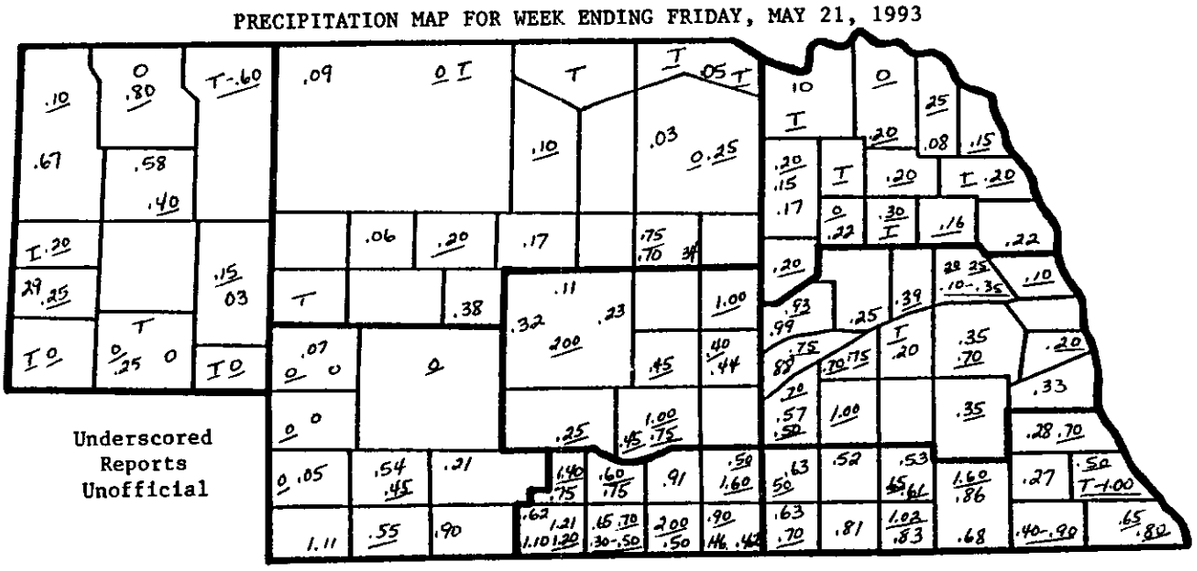
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR MONTH OF MARCH 1993 1/



Div.	Ave.	Dep.
NW	1.24	+.33
NC	.76	-.41
NE	.93	-.73
CEN	.95	-.46
EC	1.75	-.02
SW	.81	-.31
SC	1.75	+.27
SE	2.37	+.38

1/ Courtesy of the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, MAY 21, 1993



Underscored Reports Unofficial

PRECIPITATION, APRIL 1 - MAY 21, 1993

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.23	.18	.16	.28	.51	.36	.74	.60
Total since April 1	2.73	5.43	6.13	5.08	7.13	3.57	4.41	6.59
Normal since April 1	3.83	4.42	5.04	4.83	5.51	3.87	4.55	5.47

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA, WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, MAY 23, 1993

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	80	33	58	---	.09	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	81	38	59	+2	.20	282	368	315
	Sidney	77	35	57	---	---	255	329	325
NC	Valentine	83	31	58	-1	.14	290	377	306
NE	Norfolk	77	38	59	-3	.21	---	---	---
	Sioux City	75	35	57	-6	.70	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	275	344	376
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	251	323	354
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	287	357	385
CEN	Grand Island	76	38	59	-4	.37	290	365	361
	Ord	77	36	59	---	.00	269	343	377
EC	Lincoln	76	33	57	-7	1.92	308	374	390
	Omaha	75	40	59	-5	.91	294	363	356
	Columbus	---	---	---	---	---	301	375	371
	York	---	---	---	---	---	302	373	395
SW	Imperial	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	North Platte	82	39	59	0	.17	**n/a	**n/a	**n/a

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station. n/a = not available.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.